

Message Text

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44

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 ERDE-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2259

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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PASS ERDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IT

SUBJECT: AGIP NUCLEARE - EURODIF URANIUM ENRICHMENT CONTRACT

1. AGIP NUCLEARE (ENI GROUP) HAS SIGNED AN URANIUM ENRICHMENT CONTRACT WITH EURODIF FOR 11 MILLION SEPARATIVE WORK UNITS. (THROUGH THIS CONTRACT AGIP NUCLEARE, A EURODIF PARTICIPANT, HAS EXERCISED ITS OPTION TO UTILIZE ITS SHARE OF EURODIF'S ENRICHMENT CAPACITY; IT IS THE SECOND ITALIAN EURODIF PARTICIPANT TO DO SO.) THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY ENI

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VICE PRESIDENT FIACCAVENTO AND EURODIF MANAGING DIRECTOR BESSE,

IS VALUED AT ABOUT 1,300 BILLION LIRE (APPROXIMATELY \$2 BILLION), AND COVERS THE PERIOD 1980-1990.

2. COMMENT. ENEL'S NUCLEAR POWER PLAN CALLS FOR 21 NUCLEAR ELECTRICITY GENERATING STATIONS TO BE OPERATIONAL IN 1985. ASSUMING AGIP NUCLEARE ASSIGNS ITS SHARE OF EURODIF CAPACITY TO ENEL (AS THE OTHER ITALIAN EURODIF PARTICIPANT, CNEN, HAS ALREADY DONE), ENEL WILL HAVE ACCESS TO SUFFICIENT ENRICHMENT CAPACITY -- EURODIF, THE US AND THE USSR -- TO COVER ITS NEEDS THROUGH 1985. ITALY HAS NOT YET, HOWEVER, SECURED A SIGNIFICANT SUPPLY OF NATURAL URANIUM. BEYOND 1985, THERE IS A SHORTFALL IN ENEL'S ENRICHED URANIUM REQUIREMENTS -- ASSUMING THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FOR NUCLEAR GENERATING STATIONS IS ADHERED TO -- AS DISCUSSED IN THE GOI ANALYSIS, RECENTLY PRESENTED TO THE USG, OF ITS NATURAL AND ENRICHED URANIUM REQUIREMENTS. THE GOI IS LOOKING INTER ALIA TO COREDIF FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES TO COVER THE SHORTFALL BEYOND 1985. VOLPE

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